

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties

Addendum

B-4108 234 Pearl Street
MIHP Number: B-4109 236 Pearl Street

Property Name: 234-236 Pearl St.
Property Address: 234-236 Pearl St., Baltimore, MD 21201

Based on a site visit conducted on December 14, 2005 by John Milner Associates, on behalf of Maryland Mass Transit Administration (MTA), this property is no longer extant.

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. B-4109

Magi No. 0441094604

DOE ☐ yes ☒ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 234-236 Pearl Street

☐ not for publication

city, town Baltimore (City)

☐ vicinity of

congressional district

state Maryland

county

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: vacant

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name David and Patricia Greenberg

Kelso Corporation

Acquisition in process by Mayor and City Council

c/o Market Center Development Corporation

street & number 118 North Howard Street

telephone no.: 396-1584

city, town Baltimore

state and zip code Maryland 21201

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Courthouse

liber RHB 3357 402 and

street & number 100 North Calvert Street

6th Floor

folio RHB 3304 669

city, town Baltimore

state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title N/A

date

☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. B-4109

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☒ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Summary

Two badly deteriorated storefront structures, the last remaining buildings of this type on the west side of Pearl Street, are located at 234-236 Pearl Street just west of Lexington Market. They are each brick buildings, three stories high and two bays wide. They feature first floor wood storefronts and are capped with decorative cornices. The storefront at 236 Pearl Street is partially boarded over, while the storefront on the adjoining structure is damaged, but fully exposed and is surmounted by a decorative iron railing. This building at 234 Pearl Street is "L"-shaped and wraps around the other building. The interior of the structure features a front commercial space with late nineteenth century shelving and counters, an intact stairway with decorative spindels, newel posts and curved hand rail, and a candy manufacturing facility in the rear. The interior of 236 Pearl Street features plaster walls, wood floors and a tin ceiling.

General Description

The southern building of this group, 234 Pearl Street, is a three story high brick building which is two bays wide and features a wooden storefront. The storefront features a central wood panel and glass double door entrance flanked by two projecting show windows. Wood panels are located below the show windows. A simple wood cornice is capped by an intricate iron railing. The upper floor windows were apparently two over two with wood sills and splayed brick flat arches. The building is capped by a bracketed wood cornice which features beading and jig saw wood work.

The front facade of 236 Pearl Street features a boarded over storefront that is capped by a simple wood cornice with consoles. The upper floor windows feature wood sills and lintels. The third floor window is six over six, but the second floor window is boarded over. The building is capped by a wood cornice with end brackets and decorative consoles. The side elevation of the building is of plain common bond brick with a bricked over side opening.

The side elevation of 234 Pearl Street has been stuccoed. A rear back building has a small curve at the stair and continues to wrap around the rear of 236 Pearl Street. The rear building elevations are made of common bond brick with an irregular arrangement of window openings.

The interior of the storefront at 234 Pearl Street features wood shelving along the walls supported by narrow spindels. The wood counter which is decorated by panels and brackets divides the space from a

234 - 236 Pearl Street
Baltimore (City), Maryland
Description Continued Page 1

partitioned office in the rear. Other interior details include wood wainscoting, wood panel doors, wood strip flooring and a panelled office partition. Beyond the front retail space is an ornate stairway to upper floors and a manufacturing facility for confectionaries. The stairway features wood newel posts, spindels and a curved hand rail. The stair has many landings because of the difference in levels between the front and back buildings.

In the rear of 234 Pearl Street is a room which apparently was used for the manufacturing of candy. The room contains large metal vats and long table with metal tops. A single, iron fluted column supports the ceiling. The wood floors and plaster walls are in a deteriorated condition. The candy making facility wraps around the rear of 236 Pearl Street. The upper floors of 234 Pearl Street. The second and third floors are made up of two front rooms with wood floors, wood panelled doors, corner block molding at door and window frames and plaster ceilings and walls. A single back room adjoins the stairway. The interior of the storefront at 236 Pearl Street features a tin ceiling, plaster walls, wood wainscoting and wood panel doors. There has been fire damage and the upper floors were not accessible.

8. Significance

Survey No. B-4109

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates c. 1875 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or
Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Summary

There are only two nineteenth century structures left standing on the west side of the 200 block of Pearl Street. The building are typical late nineteenth century commercial buildings. The building at 234 Pearl Street retains some notable interior and exterior architectural features. This building was used as a candy manufacturing establishment for nearly a century.

History and Support

The two buildings at 234 and 236 Pearl Street were apparently built c. 1875. The Sachse Bird's Eye View of 1869 shows gable roof buildings at the site. These structures were either added to or replaced by the present buildings. The structures are typical of storefronts of the era. The detailing on 234 Pearl Street is more ornate than the adjoining structure. The storefront retains most of its wood paneling, doors and window configuration. An excellent example of an iron balcony rests above the storefront cornice. The cornice to the building has original brackets and jig saw woodwork. The interior retains several excellent architectural features such as original store shelving, the excellent stairway and rear candy making facility. The architectural character of 236 Pearl Street is in a much more deteriorated state. The storefront is partially covered and obscured by wood boards and asphalt shingles. The only notable interior feature is the tin ceiling and parts of it are in bad condition.

Both of the buildings were owned around the turn of the century by John Ortmueller, a local candy manufacturer. The candy making establishment operated from 234 Pearl Street from 1881 to the 1960s, according to Baltimore City Directories. A sign within the structure, however, states that the firm was established in 1866. After Ortmueller's death in the 1920s, the business was operated by J. D. Hammerbacher, although the candy was manufactured under the name Ortmueller. The candy was sold at Lexington Market for most of the twentieth century. Besides information found at Land Records and Baltimore City Directories, there is little information about the company.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. B-4109

Baltimore City Land Records
Baltimore City Directories

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Property known as block 591, lots 36 and 37; boundaries take in two buildings.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Fred B. Shoken, Historic Preservation Analyst		
organization	Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation	date	November 6, 1985
street & number	118 North Howard Street	telephone	396-4866
city or town	Baltimore	state	Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

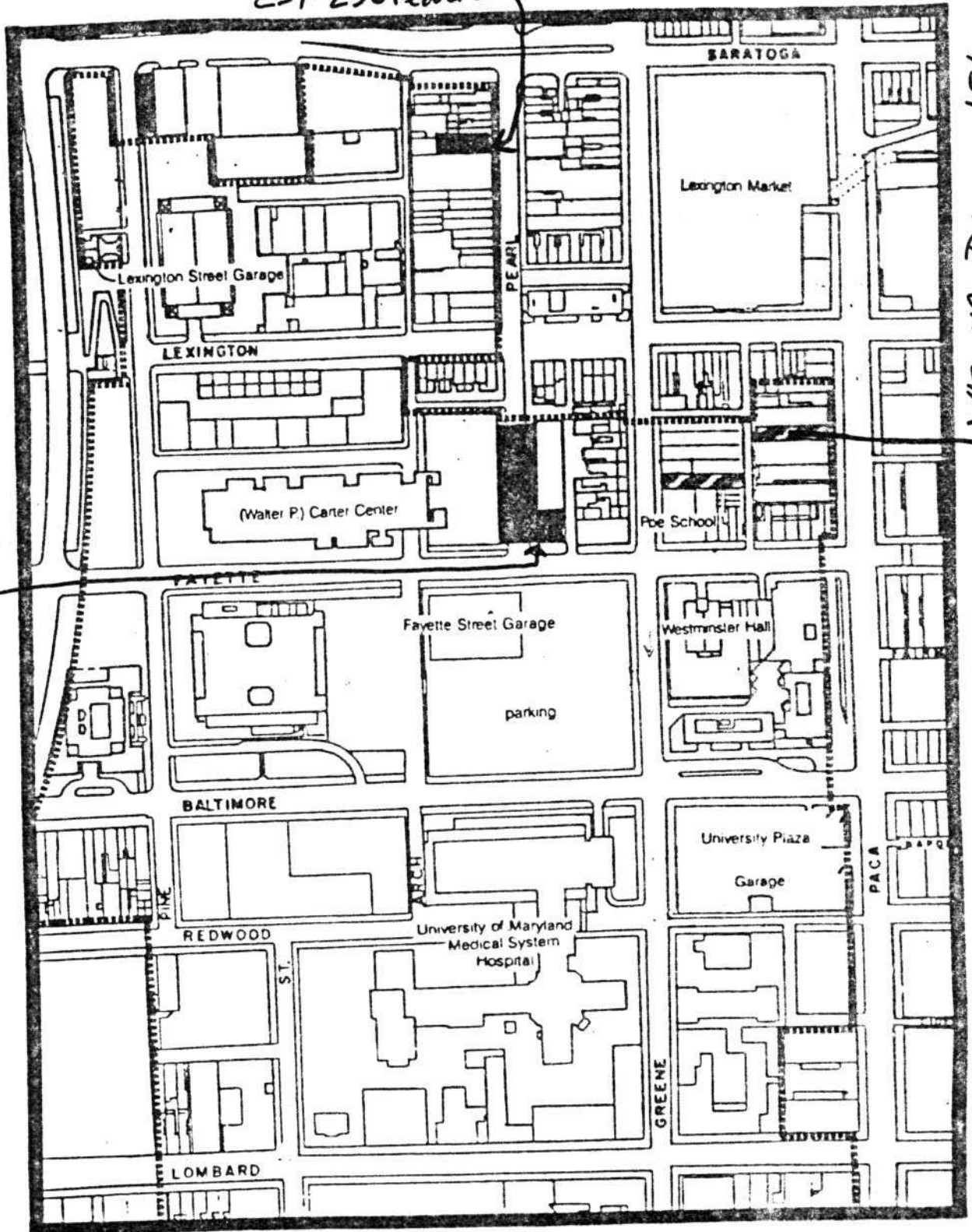
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

UMAB

EXCHANGE OF PROPERTIES

234-236 Pearl St



612-616
W Fayette St

117-119 Diamond St.

LEGEND :

----- CAMPUS BOUNDARY

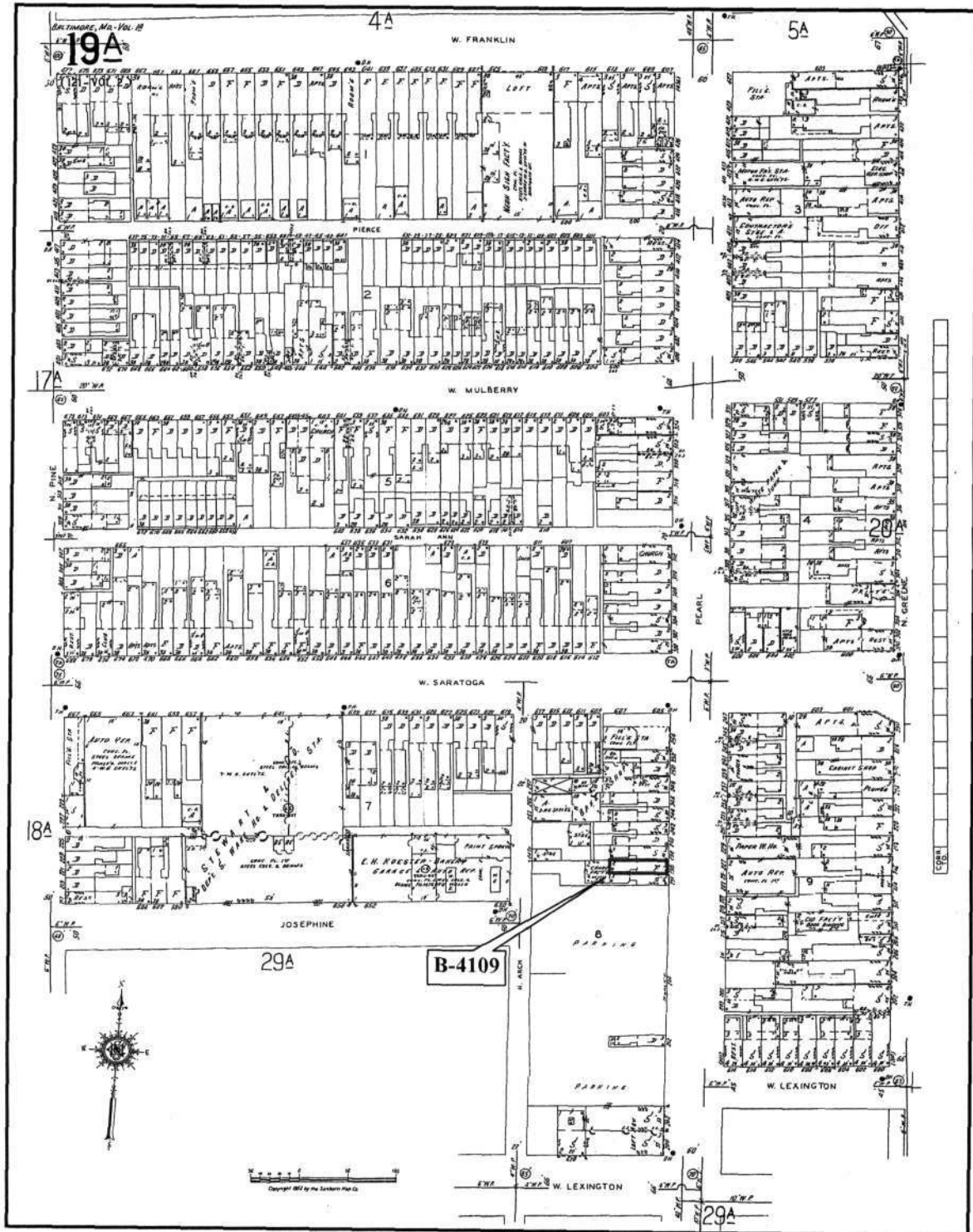


CITY TO UNIVERSITY



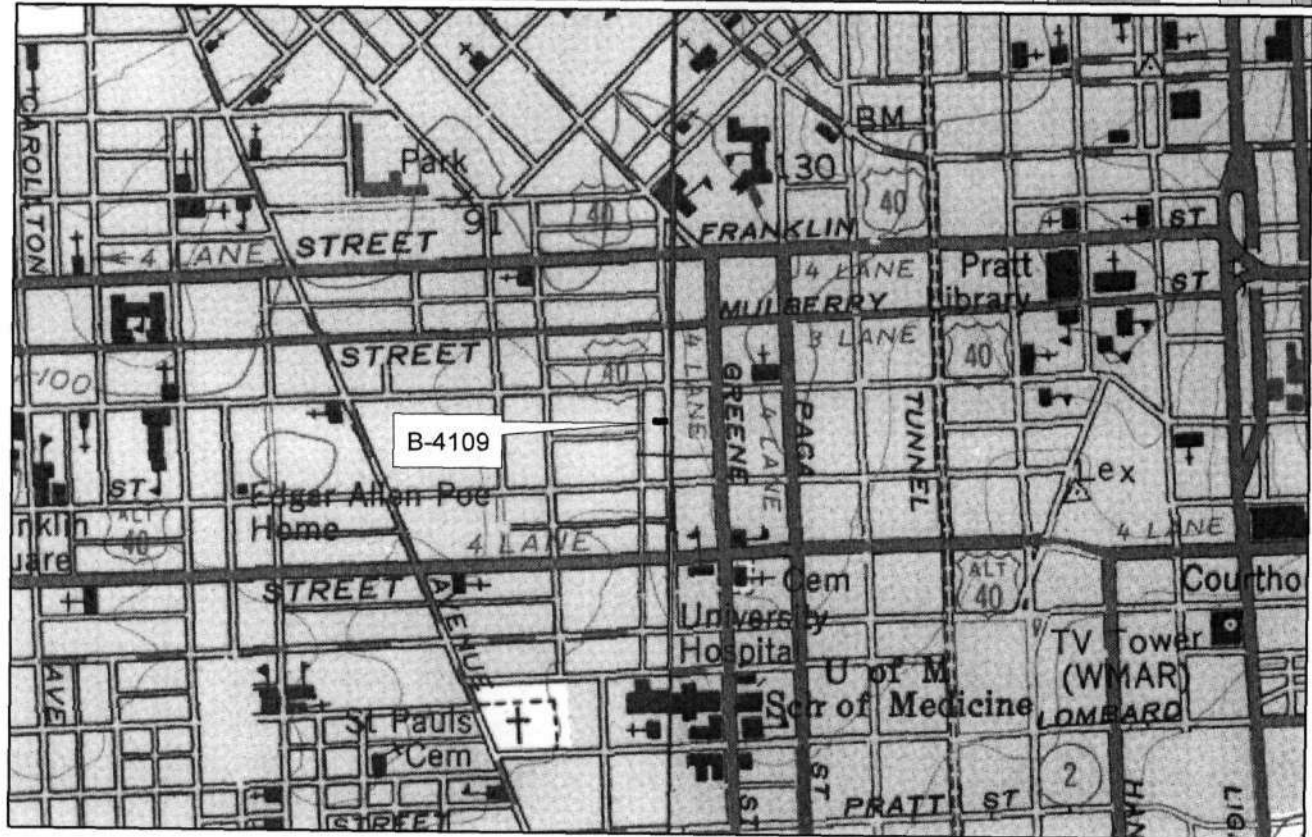
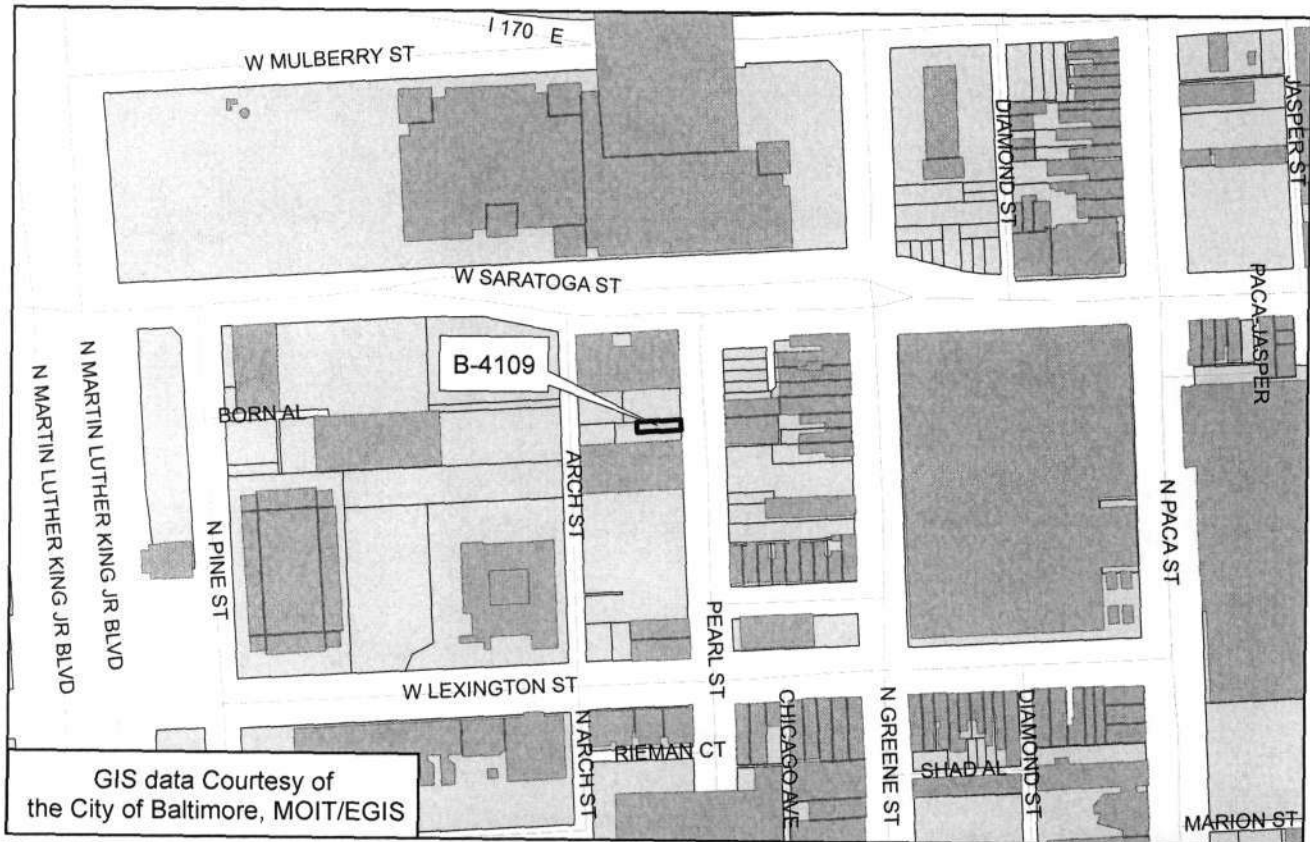
UNIVERSITY TO CITY

Demolished



B-4109
236 Pearl Street
Block 0591 Lot 036
Baltimore City
Baltimore West Quad

Demolished





234-(236) PEARL STREET
BALTIMORE (CITY), MARYLAND
BILL McALLEN

B-4109

OCTOBER 1995

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

NORTHERN AND WESTERN ELEVATIONS -
VIEW LOOKING SOUTHEAST

~~3/8~~ 1 of 3



234-(236) PEARL STREET B-4109

BALTIMORE (CITY), MARYLAND

BILL Mc ALLEN

OCTOBER 1985

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

FRONT EAST FACADE - VIEW

LOOKING WEST

~~8/8~~ 2 of 3



234-(236) PEARL STREET
BALTIMORE (CITY), MARYLAND B-4109
BILL McALLEN

OCTOBER 1985

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INTERIOR - 236 PEARL STREET - FRONT
ROOM - VIEW LOOKING TOWARDS REAR

~~7/8~~ 3 of 3